

and racial harmony on tour throughout our nation and throughout the world. If that were all she had done, Professor Reagon would be worthy of this award. But her creative energy is truly unlimited.

For nearly 35 years, she's helped to preserve, celebrate and illuminate the rich heritage of African-American music as a civil rights activist, as a singer-composer, an author, an historian, a museum curator. Since 1993, she's been distinguished professor of history at American University here in Washington. Her latest contribution to public understanding of African-American music is the 26-part radio documentary, "Wade in the Water: African-American Sacred Music Traditions," which aired beginning in 1994 on National Public Radio stations nationwide. She is a messenger of peace, and I am deeply honored that she is with us today.

Sweet Honey in the Rock, for those of you who haven't heard it, is a truly inspiring experience, but the work of her life is even more inspiring.

[The President and the First Lady presented the medal and congratulated Ms. Johnson Reagon.]

Let me thank again all the honorees and congratulate them. Thank all of you for coming. Let me thank all the distinguished saxophonists, who came here to be with us today, for their work. *[Applause]* Thank you all for your contributions and your devotion to the American way of life.

God bless you all. Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:15 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House.

Statement on the Financial Recovery in Mexico

October 5, 1995

This morning I received a call from Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo. I am pleased to announce that he informed me that Mexico is ready to repay \$700 million of the U.S. financial assistance we provided earlier this year to address Mexico's financial crisis. This news is another important step on the road to financial recovery for Mexico, and I am very pleased that this repayment comes soon-

er than expected. I congratulated President Zedillo on his resolve to implement the tough measures needed to restore economic stability and growth.

Last winter, an imminent financial collapse of Mexico threatened the economic and national security of the United States. At my direction, the United States took action to form an international coalition to provide Mexico sufficient funds to refinance its debts. It is critically important that Mexico remain a stable neighbor, continuing to grow as a market for our exports and to cooperate with us on a broad range of issues of mutual concern.

Today's decision sends a positive signal to the financial markets that the tough financial measures Mexico has undertaken are succeeding and the American taxpayer is being repaid ahead of schedule.

I look forward to meeting with President Zedillo next week when he visits Washington on his first state visit and discussing the broad range of issues affecting our two countries.

Proclamation 6831—National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, 1995

October 5, 1995

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Our Nation can take pride in the progress we have made in the war against breast cancer. Many patients who would have confronted prolonged suffering and tragic death just a few years ago can now weigh options for treatment and face the future with excellent chances for recovery. My Administration has made a strong commitment to ending breast cancer's threat to the health of American women, significantly increasing funding for research, launching a campaign to encourage older women to take advantage of the mammography covered by Medicare, and creating a National Action Plan on Breast Cancer. This initiative unites the Federal Government, advocacy groups, health professionals, and private industries in a dynamic partnership to develop new strategies for prevention and care.

Yet even as we celebrate these gains, we must remember that millions of American women still fight this terrible disease, and tens of thousands die each year as a result of its devastating effects. Every three minutes another woman is diagnosed, and breast cancer claims some 120 precious lives daily. It is the most common form of cancer among women in this country and the leading cause of cancer death for those aged 30 to 54. And all women—our mothers, sisters, daughters, and friends—face the same stark statistics.

If we are to protect our citizens and honor the memories of the brave women who, like my mother, lost their lives to breast cancer, we must rededicate ourselves to the final eradication of the illness. Although there is no known cure, early detection and advances in medical technology remain our best weapons. By doing routine self-examinations, undergoing regular mammograms, and keeping a schedule of preventive medical care, women can detect breast tumors early and dramatically reduce the spread of cancer. This month and throughout the year, let us work to increase awareness of these lifesaving therapies and renew our commitment to developing new means of prevention.

Now, Therefore, I, William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim October 1995 as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. I urge the people of the United States to learn more about breast cancer and the resources we have—including examinations, mammography, good nutrition, and exercise—that may prevent its occurrence and minimize its spread. During this month, I call upon every citizen to extend special compassion to those who still struggle against the disease and to the many who have lost loved ones. Join us in the fight to end breast cancer.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this fifth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:41 a.m., October 6, 1995]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on October 10.

**Executive Order 12976—
Compensation Practices of
Government Corporations**
October 5, 1995

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 301 of title 3, United States Code, and sections 1105, 1108, and 1111 of title 31, United States Code, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. Statement of Presidential Principles.

Government corporations subject to this order should not pay bonuses in excess of those authorized by sections 4501 through 4507 of title 5, United States Code, except as otherwise specifically provided by law.

Sec. 2. Administration Review. (a) Before taking action to approve any bonus in excess of those authorized in section 4502 of title 5, United States Code, each corporation subject to this section (as provided in section 6 of this order) shall submit information to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) relating to such bonuses as provided in subsection (b). Such corporation shall refrain from approving any such bonus until the Director of OMB has had an opportunity to review the information provided by the corporation.

(b) The Director of OMB shall issue instructions to the corporations subject to this section specifying when information is to be submitted, and the content and form of such information.

Sec. 3. Information Reporting Requirements. (a) Government corporations subject to this order will provide information to the Director of OMB relating to the compensation practices for senior executives of such corporations as provided in subsection (c).

(b) Information submitted shall include the following with respect to senior executives of each corporation subject to this section: